

however, we must be cautious not to be overly restrictive of public access to public lands. The same holds true for natural resource management. We cannot use a one-size-fits-all management style when there are so many differing opinions on how to best utilize our domestic natural resources.

In closing, I want to again say thank you to the volunteers for their tremendous efforts to ensure that the public lands we enjoy today will be enjoyed by many, for years to come.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

(At the request of Mr. REID, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.)

RETIREMENT OF RICK DIEGEL

• Mrs. CLINTON. Mr. President, I would like to take a moment to recognize the distinguished career of a man who has devoted his life to improving the welfare of working men and women.

Rick Diegel hails from Texas, where he worked as a journeyman wireman and foreman. He served his country in the U.S. Air Force from 1964 to 1968, and is a veteran of the Vietnam War. He also served three terms as the mayor pro-tem of the City of Ingleside, Texas, and was elected business manager of International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 278 in Corpus Christie in 1977. He held this post until 1983, when he was appointed to the International Office of IBEW as the director of their Committee on Political Education. In 1998, he became director of the Political/Legislative Department, a position he has held to this day.

For nearly four decades, Rick has fought to improve the working and living standards for our Nation's workers. As director at the International Office, Rick spearheaded the modern political program of the union, and transformed the way that unions effect legislative change. He worked to get more IBEW members elected to office than any other union, and he established a full-time grassroots mobilization program at IBEW to give even a louder voice to workers' needs.

Throughout his career, Rick has been a forceful advocate for the approximately 750,000 members who work in a wide variety of fields, including utilities, construction, telecommunications, broadcasting, manufacturing, railroads and government. Rick has served as a powerful champion for the labor movement, not only because he was a skillful advocate on behalf of workers, but also because he encouraged workers to make their individual voices heard. Rick understood the importance of workers engaging in the political process to elect members who made workers' rights a priority.

Rick Diegel is a dear friend and an invaluable ally in the fight to support America's workers. He has left an in-

delible mark on the country he has served his entire life, and he has improved the lives of millions of workers. I wish him a retirement full of health and happiness.●

HONORING MICHAEL HOOFFSTETTER

• Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I wish today to recognize a fellow New Mexican, Michael Hooffstetter, for his hard work and advocacy on behalf of individuals living with Parkinson's disease.

Michael is in Washington this week receiving a very prestigious award from the Parkinson's Action Network, the Milly Kondracke Award. The award's namesake was a well-known Parkinson's advocate who worked tirelessly to increase awareness of this disease and support Federal funding for research until her death in 2004. The award is presented annually to an advocate who demonstrates the incredible strength of spirit and commitment to advocacy that Milly demonstrated. I am very pleased that this year's recipient is Michael Hooffstetter.

Each of the last several years, Michael and others from New Mexico have come to Washington and met with me to discuss programs that help those suffering with Parkinson's disease. As the New Mexico State coordinator for the Parkinson's Action Network, Michael speaks candidly about his disease, the treatments he has undergone, and the effect it has had on him and his family. Michael's Air Force service has given him a special interest in the Department of Defense Neurotoxin Exposure Treatment and Research Program. I have always appreciated his honesty and insight and admire him for his advocacy.

Michael Hooffstetter has helped many people by dedicating his time and efforts through the Parkinson's Action Network. I congratulate him for this award.●

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

• Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I wish today to congratulate the New Mexico affiliates of Habitat for Humanity on the completion of their 500th house. This house was built for Frances Marquez and her daughter, 11-year-old Amanda Marquez in San Pedro, NM, which is located right outside of Española. The Española and Los Alamos affiliate of Habitat for Humanity gathered 100 people from Espanola Valley to volunteer on this project and bring a real sense of community to the Marquez family's new home.

This particular house was a very special project. It involved the community not only through the volunteers who built the house, but also through the suggestions of Northern New Mexico College surveying students who helped draft the plans for the house. Drafting instructor Jeff Toomey brought this project to his class in order to give them a real-world lesson on drafting

plans for a client. Thanks to their input, this house was specially designed to meet the needs of the Marquez family.

Habitat for Humanity is responsible for the creation and rehabilitation of over 150,000 homes since its 1976 inception. In my home State of New Mexico, there are 18 affiliates of Habitat for Humanity who have improved the lives of families and communities by striving to provide safe and affordable housing. As a Senator, I am always looking for ways to help New Mexico communities be the best that they can be, and thanks to organizations like Habitat for Humanity, this common goal can be accomplished.●

TRIBUTE TO GRACE PALEY

• Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, I wish to acknowledge the recent passing of Grace Paley. Grace, who called Vermont her home, was a renowned and award-winning short story writer, a political activist, a wife and mother.

Although she spent much of each year in Thetford, VT, and we considered her an adopted Vermonter, her fiction was set in the apartments, streets and neighborhoods of New York City. Grace Paley was not attracted to the bright lights or famous personalities or glitter of New York; however, she was attracted to the quotidian lives and the interpersonal and ethical problems faced by people very like ourselves. As Grace once said, "I'm not writing a history of famous people, I am interested in a history of everyday life." She wrote about them in her two most noted collections of stories, "The Little Disturbances of Man" and "Enormous Changes at the Last Minute." And she wrote beautifully, and with great sensitivity to both the spoken language and to human relationships. Her work gathered enormous critical acclaim. She was one of the great short fiction writers of our age.

Her home in Thetford, VT, was not some weekend getaway, some means of unwinding from the hectic pace of life in the big city. For Grace, Thetford—and the State of Vermont—was a place where she could carry on her long-standing struggle for peace and for social justice. She was an active, a very active, presence in the local community. Whether it was through her long-standing commitment to bringing peace to the world or her many local readings of her fiction, Grace Paley was a presence in our lives—and a beloved local figure. She never sought the spotlight, but she did not shy away from it when she felt her cause was just. She lived her convictions and served as a model for generations of women, of Vermonters, of activists.

In recognition of her contributions to Vermont, Grace Paley was awarded the title of "Vermont State Poet" in 2003, a position that had been held previously by Robert Frost, among others. She was also awarded the title of "New York State Writer" by Mario Cuomo in